

FOURTEENTH CENSUS OF THE UNITED STATES: 1920

DEPARTMENT
OF COMMERCE

BULLETIN

BUREAU OF THE CENSUS
SAM. L. ROGERS, DIRECTOR

POPULATION: DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

NUMBER OF INHABITANTS, BY DIVISIONS

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TOTAL POPULATION, INCREASE, AND DISTRIBUTION.

Population of District.—The establishment of the District of Columbia as the seat of the Federal Government was authorized by acts of Congress passed in 1790 and 1791. Congress first met in the District in 1800, and assumed jurisdiction over it in 1801. According to the Fourteenth Census, taken as of January 1, 1920, the population of the District of Columbia is 437,571, which represents an increase of 106,502, or 32.2 per cent, over the population in 1910. During the same period the population of the United States increased by 14.9 per cent.

Table 1 shows the population of the District of

Columbia from 1800 to 1920, inclusive, together with the number and per cent of increase in each decade, in comparison with the per cent of increase for the United States as a whole.

The figures for the censuses prior to 1850 include the population of about 30 square miles south of the Potomac River, originally a part of the District but retroceded to Virginia in 1846.

Density of population.—The total land area of the District is 60 square miles. The average number of inhabitants to the square mile in 1920 was 7,292.9, as against 5,517.8 in 1910 and 4,645.3 in 1900.

TABLE 1.—POPULATION OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA: 1800 TO 1920.

CENSUS YEAR.	Population.	INCREASE OVER PRECEDING CENSUS.		Per cent of increase for the United States.
		Number.	Per cent.	
1920.....	437,571	106,502	32.2	14.9
1910.....	331,069	52,351	18.8	21.0
1900.....	278,718	48,326	21.0	20.7
1890.....	230,392	52,768	29.7	25.5
1880.....	177,624	45,924	34.9	30.1
1870.....	131,700	56,620	75.4	22.6
1860.....	75,080	23,393	45.3	35.6
1850.....	51,687	7,975	18.2	35.9
1840.....	43,712	3,878	9.7	32.7
1830.....	39,834	6,795	20.6	33.5
1820.....	33,039	9,016	37.5	33.1
1810.....	24,023	9,930	70.5	38.4
1800.....	14,093			

Divisions and districts.—The city of Washington has been coextensive with the District of Columbia since February 11, 1895, when, by act of Congress, Georgetown was made a part of Washington. Its population is essentially urban or suburban in character, and no attempt has been made to define the

small areas which might be classed as rural. Table 2 shows the population of the District of Columbia at the censuses of 1920, 1910, and 1900, respectively, distributed among the three divisions recognized before the county government of the District was abolished in 1874.

POPULATION—DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA.

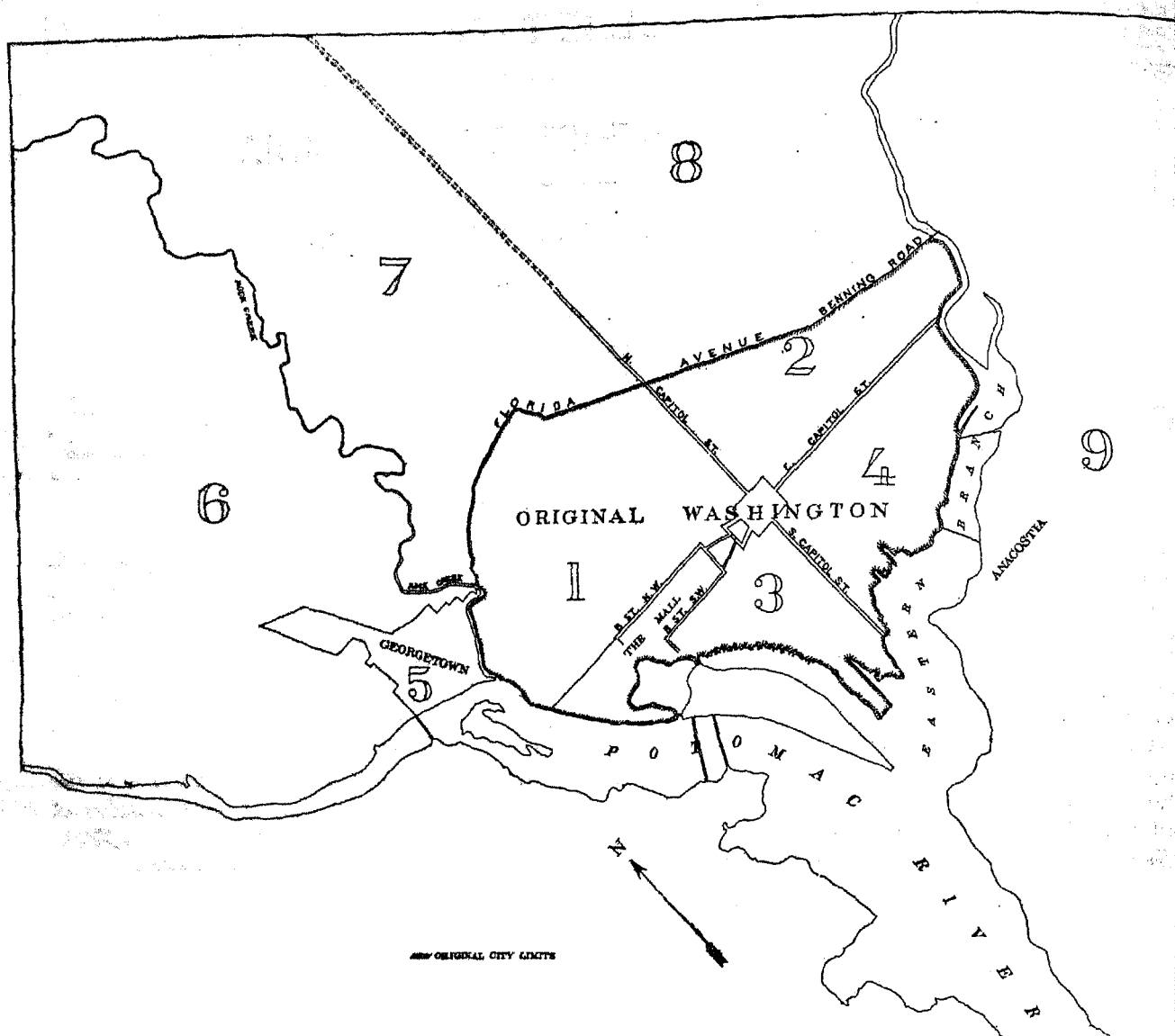


TABLE 2.—POPULATION OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, BY DIVISIONS: 1920, 1910, AND 1900.

DIVISION.	POPULATION.			PER CENT OF TOTAL POPULATION.		
	1920	1910	1900	1920	1910	1900
District of Columbia	437,571	331,069	278,718	100.0	100.0	100.0
Washington (original limits)	268,208	230,630	218,196	61.3	69.7	78.3
Georgetown (original limits)	17,063	16,046	14,549	3.9	4.8	5.2
Remainder of District	152,280	84,393	45,973	34.8	25.5	16.5

In order to show the growth by smaller areas, the Bureau of the Census has further distributed the population of the District in 1920, 1910, and 1900, respectively, according to nine districts, which are shown on the accompanying map. These districts are as follows:

WASHINGTON (ORIGINAL LIMITS).

District 1, Northwest.—The area south of Florida Avenue between North Capitol Street and Rock Creek, north of the Mall and the Capitol Grounds.

District 2, Northeast.—The area between the Anacostia River (Eastern Branch) and North Capitol Street, north of East Capitol Street and south of Florida Avenue and Benning Road.

District 3, Southwest.—The area south of the Mall and the Capitol Grounds, west of South Capitol Street and north of the Potomac River.

District 4, Southeast.—The area south of East Capitol Street, east of South Capitol Street, and north of the Anacostia River (Eastern Branch).

GEORGETOWN (ORIGINAL LIMITS).

District 5.—The area comprising what was formerly known as Georgetown.

REMAINDER OF DISTRICT.

District 6.—The area west of Rock Creek, exclusive of Georgetown.

District 7.—The area between North Capitol Street extended and Rock Creek, north of Florida Avenue.

POPULATION—DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA.

Precinct 9.—The area bounded by the District line, Bowen Road, Ridge Road, Anacostia Road, East Capitol Street extended and East Capitol Street, First Street NE., Union Station, Second Street NE., K Street, First Street NE., Florida Avenue, line drawn from intersection of Third Street and Florida Avenue NE., to intersection of Brentwood Road and Seventh Street NE., Brentwood Road, Eighteenth Street NE., and Queens Chapel Road.

Precinct 10.—The area bounded by the District line, Queens Chapel Road, Eighteenth Street, Brentwood Road, T Street, First Street NW., Channing Street, College Street extended, College Street, Barry Place extended, Barry Place, Florida Avenue, Q Street, and Rock Creek.

Precinct 11.—The area bounded by East Capitol Street extended, Anacostia Road, Ridge Road, Bowen Road, District line, Potomac River, and Anacostia River.